

New Bedford Dec. 31. 1838

My dear Friend,

Your letter was duly received and we were made very happy in the hope that we should again enjoy your society in N. B. — Mrs. Howland has been three several times upon the subject, and desires me to say to you, that if you will come to N. B. immediately, or as soon as you can, conditions can be more satisfactorily arranged by an interview than by letter; that she presumed that no difficulty can occur on that score, and that in case there should be any, she engages to indemnify you for the expenses of the journey. — So that you can have the pleasure of seeing your friends here, even if no bargain could be made, which I do not in the least fear. — It is almost "New Year." In anticipation. I wish you a happy one. — If any thing happens to prevent your coming ~~and~~ ^{if} you had better write and give me notice. Mrs. E. sends much love. In great haste.

Believe me truly your Friend John F. Emerson.

John D. Cooper Dec. 31. 1838

My dear Thomas,

From letter was duly received

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Miss Deborah Austin
Weymouth
Mass.